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THE UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER

ROBERT L. SPROULL
PRESIDENT

10 June 1974

Dr. James L. Liverman
Director, Division of Biomedical Research
U.S. Atomic Energy Commission
Washington, D.C.

Dear Jim:

On 23 May we had a very productive meeting with your Dr. William Burr and Dr. Sidney Marks about the long-standing plutonium cases.

At Dr. Burr's suggestion, we shall go to our human use committee to discuss the patient of Dr. Taylor. We shall do that as soon as we can get the record and the committee together.

We shall also discuss with the human use committee the two patients of Dr. Waterhouse, but meanwhile Dr. Waterhouse will attempt to find an appropriate time to tell these patients the facts in their cases. Since both are old and both have serious health problems not related to the subject at hand, Dr. Waterhouse believes it is not in the best interest of the patients to attempt to get these rather complicated ideas across unless she can find the appropriate moment of extra-lucidity.

The proposed release intended to be signed by patients actually was composed of three parts. It is our understanding Dr. Burr will attempt to break it into three separate documents, and we will have them studied by our legal counsel as soon as we receive them.

Meanwhile, I should like urgently to request that you grant us the consideration of seeing and approving in advance any press releases that mention Rochester (either as a location or as an institution, or any elements of the University of Rochester) or these patients. Also meanwhile, we should like to request that you defer any exhumations until autopsies of the patients now living have been performed.

I appreciate your sensitive approach to this delicate situation and appreciate the time and effort that you, Dr. Burr, and Dr. Marks have devoted to it.

Sincerely yours,

RLS:jb

CC: J. Lowell Orbison, M.D.

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